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A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE Mineral Waters Lately found out in the CITY of CANTERBURY.

I. WHEREAS ſome Perſons have, and do ſtill endeavour to divert People from the Uſe of the *Mineral Waters* found out in this City a few Years paſt; either out of Prejudice to the Perſons concern'd, or for other Reaſons better known to themſelves: It is thought adviſeable (that the Publick may not be depriv'd of the Benefit of ſo great a Remedy) to publiſh this ſhort Account of 'em; and at the ſame time to deſire thoſe Perſons that find ſo much fault with theſe Waters, that if they have any thing to object againſt 'em, or againſt the Account here given of 'em, to acquaint the Publick with it, that the World may not be impos'd upon and damnify'd by what is here ſaid of 'em.

II. In digging theſe Wells, they firſt obſerv'd a fat black Mold extending it ſelf three foot deep, and

gradually changing into another ſort of Earth very fat, and like Butter, if ſquees'd between the Fingers. This *ſecond* Lay of Earth was two foot thick; the Colour of it was yellow, ſomething mixt: its Odour very ſtrong and mineral, and being expos'd to the Sun for a while, it ſmell'd like Brimſtone. After this they met with a Quickſand of a darker Colour than the firſt Earth, mixt with ſeveral little black Stones; the Smell was ſtronger than before. Two foot further under this Quickſand a hard Rock appeared, out of which the Water guſh'd out. They dug two Wells at about ſeven Foot diſtance from each other. The Bigneſs is between 8 and 9 Foot deep from its own Surface, and 12 from the Surface of the Ground about it, and reacheth the Rock. The other Well is not ſo deep by two Foot, and only toucheth the Sand. The firſt is ſtronger of the Spirit, and the Mineral is more ferruginous, but the ſecond is ſtronger of the *Sulphur*.

III. Two Drams of the ſecond Lay of Earth, found in digging theſe Wells, being put into four Ounces of *Spirit of Vinegar*, there preſently aroſe a conſiderable Ebullition, and ſoon after the *Spirit* was ting'd with a yellow browny Colour. This *Tincture* ſuffer'd no Alteration with the Infuſion of *Logwood*, nor with *Galls*, but with Oil of *Tartar p. deliq.* turn'd greeniſh, and with the Tincture of *Lignum Nephriticum*, of a pale Red.

IV. This Water taken up at the Well, is extraordinary limpid, but grows ſomething whitiſh in a quarter

a quarter of an Hour, and in half an Hour the Spirit is loſt, and the Mineral hangs firſt on the ſides of the Glaſs, and then falls gradually to the bottom; and if a Bottle with this Water be never ſo well ſtop'd, it will not keep its Spirit. Its Taſte is Maſculine and auſtere. The Smell is mineral and ſtrong, much upon the Sulphur, eſpecially the little Well.

V. The Root of the Tongue and Stools of them that drink of the little Well are grayiſh, but if they drink of the great Well they are brown.

VI. This Water is commonly cold; but in Froſty Weather it is ſo warm as to ſmoak, and melt all the Ice and Snow that comes near it.

VII. By Diſtillation it giveth nothing but a Water in every reſpect like common Water.

VIII. *Mutton* boil'd in this Water is more white and tender than in common Water. Some think it hath made their *Beer* ſtronger being brew'd with it. *Linen* waſh'd in it turns yellow. It will not lather with *Soap*. The *Glaſſes* the Water is dip'd with grow yellow at the bottom, which no Scowring can take off.

IX. The *Weight* of it varies much, according to the Seaſons and Weather. In *May* 1704, it weighed three Grains lighter than common Water in the Quantity of a Pound. In the Spring of 1705, it was equal in Weight with common Water; but in the Month of *Auguſt* of the ſame Year, the Weight was conſiderably increas'd, becauſe of the exceeding dry Weather of that Summer; which made the Wa-

ter ſo ſtrong with the Mineral, that it loſt its Limpidity. In general about Midſummer, if the Weather is not over dry, the Weight of this Water is equal to common Water.

X. A ſingle Grain Weight of *Gall* will turn a Pint and a half of this Water of a very noble deep red, and that in an inſtant. *Syrup* of *Violets* turns it of a Graſs-green. With the Infuſion of *Braſil* it giveth a deep lovely blue: With that of *Lignum Nephriticum*, firſt a light green, then a light yellow, with a blue Crown on the Surface: With the Infuſion of *Logwood* a blue black: With that of *Fuſtick Wood*, a dusky yellow: With the *Flowers* of *Pomegranates*, a fair Violet: With *Leaves* of *Green Thea*, a fine purpliſh blue: With good *Nants Brandy*, an elegant Sky Colour.

XI. This Water turns a *Solution* of the *Sugar* of Lead milky in one inſtant; and even the *Solution* of *Sublimate* in a quarter of an hour. But *Oil* of *Tartar*, *Spirit* of *Vitriol*, *Spirit* of *Sal Armoniac*, make no Alteration with it.

XII. In calm Weather a thick fat Film covers the Surface of this Water, of more Variety of Colours than a Rainbow: A Spoonful of it drunk hath the Effect of, and compoſeth as much to Sleep as a moderate Doſe of *Opium*. Being dry'd by Evaporation, it taſted very fat, and ſet ſo between the Fingers. Some of this Powder being caſt upon a red hot Iron, moſt of it immediately conſum'd away with ſome Sparkling; and what remain'd was of the Co-

lour of Ruſt of Iron, and taſted partly Stiptick and Earthy, and partly Salted.

XIII. By gentle Evaporation this Water yeilds a yellowiſh Sediment, more or leſs, according to the Seaſons. Laſt Spring a Quart yeilded but ſix Grains of it; but in *September* following it afforded me about nine. Whereas a Pound of *Tunbridge* Water gave but one Grain Weight of this Sediment to the Honourable *Robert Boyle*, as may be ſeen in his *Short Memoirs of Mineral Waters*; ſo that when theſe Waters are weakeſt, they are three to one ſtronger of the *Mineral* than that of *Tunbridge*.

XIV. This abovementioned Sediment being boil'd in River Water, made a ſtrong *Lixivium*, with which the *Tincture* of *Galls*, nor that of *Braſil*, nor that of *Logwood*, nor the *Solution* of *Sugar* of *Lead*, made no remarkable Alteration: But *Syrup* of *Violets* turn'd it green, *Spirit* of *Nitre*, *Spirit* of *Sulphur*, caus'd no ſenſible Fermentation.

XV. Some of the aforeſaid *Lixivium* being gently evaporated, yeilded a fat ſulphureous kind of Salt. There is more or leſs of this Salt, according to the Seaſons; This Spring I had about two Grains of it out of ten Grains of Sediment; but laſt Autumn I had about three.

XVI. The Stones on, and the Chanel in which this Water glides along, is always lin'd with a yellow hard Cruſt.

XVII. I will at preſent ſuperſede ſeveral more Experiments made upon this Subject, deſigning, God willing, to enlarge upon it another time; and I have reaſon to hope here is enough to ſhow,

1. That what ſome have ſaid, that this Water was Artificial; others, that it was ting'd with Copper; others, that it comes from the *Tan-Pits* of the Neighbourhood, *&c.* is the Effect only of Prejudice, or Ignorance, to give it no worſe Name.

2. That this Water is animated with a conſiderable Quantity of a fine *volatile ſulphureous Spirit*, admirably ſympathizing with that of our Body.

3. That it is impregnated with a *ferruginous liquid Sulphur*, a *Liquamen Martis*, *Iron* in *Embrio*, and that to three times as much more as *Tunbridge Water*, to which it is alſo preferable on account of its not being ſo fixt.

4. That there is in it an *alcaleous ſulphureous Salt*, to about a fourth part of the whole mineral Subſtance; and that it is of the ſame Nature with the Salt found in the *German Spaw-Water.*

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THE OPERATIONS and VIRTUES OF THIS WATER.

I. THIS Water being drink'd ſet pleaſantly upon the Stomach, (except ſometime in the Beginning, when the Stomach is foul) works it ſelf off by Urine, keeps the Body moderately open, and ſometime purges. It creates a good Stomach, but not ſuch a voracious Appetite, as to make the Drinkers ſick after Dinner; nor is it ſo cold; nor does it go off with a kind of *Teneſmus*, as *Tunbridge* Water often does.

II. It manifeſtly raiſeth the Pulſe, chears the Heart, quickens the Spirits, invigorates the Fibers of the Blood, Glands, and other Veſſels, and reſtores their ſpringing Property. It cleanſeth the Body, and gently evacuates all ſuperfluous and noxious Humours by Stools, Urine, and Perſpiration.

III. Theſe Waters remove the Diſeaſes ariſing from preternatural Heat, by waſhing away all bilious and aduſt Humours, and diſſolving acrid alcaleous Salts.

IV. They cure the Diſeaſes proceeding from want of ſufficient Circulation in the Blood and Humours,

or from cold phlegmatick Juices, by giving the Blood a higher Degree of Motion, increasing the Spirits, and attenuating, dissolving, and evacuating all excrementious Humours, and assimilating them that are good.

V. They remove all kind of Stoppages, and the Diseases depending upon 'em and Wind; and upon that score cure many Diseases of the Head and Breast, and almost all the Diseases of the Belly.

VI. But the Cases in which they are an admirable and almost an infallible Remedy are, 1. The Infirmities attending Old Age and Consumptions, to which the little Well is an adequate Remedy. 2. The Stone and Gravel, which they not only cure by their expulsive, but also by their absterstive and dilating Property. 3. The Gout and Rheumatick Pains, for which it is an unparallell'd Remedy. 4. The Scurvy, Melancholy, and Maladies depending upon the Mind. 5. Vapours, and most Diseases of Women. 6. Colicks of all sorts. 7. All inward and outward Ulcers, if not too far gone. 8. All Scabs, Itch, periodical Inflammations, and other Breakings out of the Skin, if never so rebellious.

VII. The only Cases I have found these Waters disagree with, are the Diseases incident to the hot, florid, and plletherick Constitutions of some strong young People.

FINIS.